



## Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission

204 East Academy St. ♦ P.O. Box 771 ♦ Asheboro, North Carolina 27204

July 22, 2009

The Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission (HLPC) met at the Trinity Museum/Winslow House at 7524 NC Hwy 62, Trinity, NC.

The Commission gathered in the kitchen area of the house/museum. Chairman Johnson stated that the location for this meeting is the first outside of the usual meeting place in the Randolph County Office Building. Those present introduced themselves. Ms. Andrews shared some details of the house and acted as tour guide. Throughout the tour, she shared information about the historical contents, as well.

Ms. Andrews stated that the Dr. Thomas L. Winslow House, now the Trinity Museum, was built c 1855. The large pane 6/6 windows, two panel interior doors, Greek revival mantels, and mortise and tenon constructions indicate this date. The entrance, with three-pane sidelights and corner-blocked trim, is set in a small area of flush siding; weatherboards cover the rest of the façade. This indicates that the present porch replaces an earlier smaller porch. The wide overhang of the roof supported by sawn rafter ends, may be original—perhaps a reference to the popular Italianate style.

Dr. Winslow's medical background is not known, but it was a common practice of the time for a young man to read medicine with an established doctor. In the diary of Phoebe Jane Brown of 1859 and 1860, she mentions several times the visit of Dr. Winslow to their home to attend to her mother.

Dr. Winslow was born on March 7, 1820 in Perquimans County, NC and died on August 6, 1902. He is buried in Trinity Cemetery.

There is no record of deed showing he owned the house, but in July of 1870, he married Mary Ann "Annie" Leak, whose family built the house. She was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann Shaw Leak, who were residents of Trinity. At that time, the laws of NC forbade a woman from owning property, therefore Annie was placed under the legal umbrella of her husband and only the husband could act for her in any legal matters. This explains how Thomas L. Winslow and wife, Annie, sold to Mordecia Mendenhall a parcel of land and house in Trinity in 1872, when a deed cannot be located to explain how Dr. Winslow had acquired the land. This deed describes the house.

From 1872 until 1905, no deed transactions are found. We do know James Charles White was born in the house on March 7, 1874. The White family lived there for several years.

In 1905, The Clark Payne family purchased the house and lived there until 1945, when they sold it to Jesse & Ella Richardson. The Richardsons made some minor alterations to the inside of the house and lived there until 2003, when Ella deeded the house to the Trinity Historic Preservation Society to be used for a museum.

After the tour, the Commission met in the Historical Society's meeting room located in another building on the property. Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

Members present were Hal Johnson, Fran Andrews, Bill Johnson, Warren Dixon, Mac Whatley, Bill Ivey, Robyn Hankins and Lynne Qualls. Robby Davis was absent.

Chairman Johnson said that at today's meeting the Historical Landmark Preservation Commission (HLPC) would conduct the public hearing and then vote whether to approve a resolution of support to present to the Trinity City Council. If approved, the Trinity City Council will then set a public hearing and decide whether to approve, by resolution, the Trinity Museum/Winslow House as a historical landmark.

### **Public Hearings - Landmark Designations**

#### **1. Trinity Museum/Winslow House**

At 2:35 p.m., the Commission adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing to consider the historic landmark designation request for the Trinity Museum/Winslow House. Chairman Johnson opened the duly advertised public hearing for comments on the request and closed it before taking action on the request.

Chairman Johnson stated that the required documentation had been submitted to the NC Historical Preservation Office and their reply had been received, stating that the proposed designation meets the criteria the State has established for designation.

Chairman Johnson welcomed members of the Trinity Historical Society to the meeting. Present from the Society were Eric Smith, Nan Edwards, Betty Brown and Nancy Davis. HLPC Commission member Fran Andrews is also a member of the Society.

Mr. Whatley stated that it is a great time to recognize other great houses in this area.

Mr. Ivey added that the HLPC and the Trinity Historical Society should be very proud of the work they are doing to preserve history.

Chairman Johnson said that during the tour of the museum, prior to the calling to order of the meeting, Ms. Andrews highlighted some of the facts that constitute the Trinity Museum/Winslow House to be a historical landmark.

*On motion of Hankins, seconded by Whatley, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the resolution of support for the Trinity City Council's designation of the historic Trinity Museum/Winslow House as a historic landmark, as follows:*

### ***Resolution Recommending Local Historic Landmark Designation Trinity Museum/Winslow House, c. 1855***

***WHEREAS***, Chapter 160A, Article 19, Part 3C of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for the designation of local historic landmarks; and

***WHEREAS***, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners has appointed the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission, having the authority to exercise, all powers and duties given it by the Randolph County Historic Preservation Ordinance; and

***WHEREAS***, the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission has taken into consideration all information contained in the Historic Landmark Designation Application for the exterior of the Trinity Museum/Winslow House, c.1855 requested and filed by the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission on April 4, 2009; and

*WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office, has reviewed the Local Landmark Application and noted that the exterior of the Trinity Museum/Winslow House, c. 1855, possesses the requisite historical significance and integrity required for local landmark designation; and*

*WHEREAS, the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission conducted the required public hearing, having published legal notices with mailings to adjoining property owners; and*

*WHEREAS, the Trinity Museum/Winslow House is one of about ten antebellum era houses in the Old Trinity College area. It was constructed circa 1855 and retains the most structural integrity of any antebellum era houses in the area; having Greek Revival architectural features with six over six windows; two panel interior doors, and mortise and tenon construction; and*

*WHEREAS, the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission finds that the Trinity Museum/Winslow House c. 1855, meets the following specific criteria outlined in the adopting Ordinance establishing the Commission: (1) Critical Part of the City of Trinity's Heritage by having value as an example of the cultural, historic, and social heritage of Randolph County; (2) The location of the Trinity Museum/Winslow House c. 1855 provides a unique and distinctive structure representing an established and familiar visual presence in the City of Trinity; and*

*WHEREAS, the property is more specifically described as follows:*

*The exterior of the circa 1855 structure located at 7524 NC Hwy 62, Trinity, N.C., PIN# 7708749419, Trinity Township, Randolph County.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2009, that the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission approves the request for local landmark designation, and recommends to the City Council of the City of Trinity, North Carolina, that the Trinity Museum/Winslow House c. 1855 be designated as a Local Historic Landmark.*

Chairman Johnson will notify the Commission when the Trinity City Council has set a public hearing date for designation. Once designated, a sign will be placed on the property and Mr. Johnson displayed a draft of the sign.

## 2. Andrew Balfour Gravesite

Chairman Johnson stated that the public hearing for the Andrew Balfour Gravesite that was set at the May meeting for today was not advertised due to conflict in the schedule of the attendees and needs to be rescheduled. The Commission agreed that the public hearing could be duly advertised and held at the August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting in the County Commissioner's Meeting Room at 2:00 p.m. so The Daughters of the American Revolution may attend.

### **Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2009**

*On a motion of Dixon, seconded by Andrews, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 27, 2009, as presented.*

### **Update on June Training Session in Pinehurst**

Commission members that attended the training in Pinehurst on June 24 were Hal Johnson, Lynne Qualls, Warren Dixon and Clerk to the Commission Amanda Varner.

Chairman Johnson said the Randolph County HLPC has been very active in comparison to others in NC and that the Commission is doing everything it should be in regard to regulations.

### **1909 Courthouse Landmark Designation Marker**

Chairman Johnson said the historic landmark designation marker for the first landmark designated in Randolph County, the 1909 Courthouse, is in the preliminary stages. The

Commission had designated Mr. Whatley to write the history to be imprinted in the stone monument. Chairman Johnson had a rough draft of the design. It will be cut out of Mt. Airy Granite, to match the foundation of the courthouse, and will stand about five feet high with an angled top, where the history will be displayed. It has been suggested that the marker should be set to the right side facing of the courthouse near the light post.

The draft design, suggested location and cost estimate will go to the County Commissioners for their approval, since they are the owner of the property and the monument is more elaborate than the standard signage approved by the HLPC.

### **Update on HLPC Logo**

Ms. Andrews and Chairman Johnson each have been to RCC to talk with the Drafting and Design class. The class is gathering information about Randolph County history to aid in their design of a potential logo for the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission.

### **Discussion**

Mr. Bill Johnson stated that “quality of life” is the biggest economic issue in Randolph County. He also asked those present to support the plays *Pathway to Freedom* and *Sword of Peace* as they tell the stories of Randolph County and help preserve the history of our area.

Mr. Ivey stated he was appreciative of the example Trinity has set for history preservation.

Ms. Nan Edwards, Treasurer for the Trinity Historical Society, stated that she is concerned about what we all leave to children and grandchildren regarding our local history.

Ms. Andrews and Mr. Ivey said they would both like the Commission to find ways to work with local governments and chambers of commerce to showcase Randolph County history.

### **Adjournment**

*On a motion of Whatley, seconded by Hankins, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.*

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Hal Johnson, Chairman

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Amanda Varner,  
Clerk to the HLPC